REMARKS

This paper responds to the Office Action dated April 23, 2007. A diligent effort has been made to respond to the objections and rejections set forth therein, and reconsideration is respectfully requested.

1. Status of Claims

Claims 1-24 are pending.

2. Rejections over Hull (US 2003/0034878) in view of Fujino (US 2001/0012347)

The office action continues to maintain the obviousness rejection over Hull in view of Fujino even though it is clear that Hull is missing the steps of (1) identifying the correspondent of a communications event at a mobile device independent of an address book and then (2) automatically retrieving a communications event history associated with the identified correspondent. In point of fact, Hull teaches that the prior communications events are identified as a consequence of identifying the correspondent in the address book. In this manner, Hull teaches away from the present set of claims and thus the obviousness rejection is faulty and should be withdrawn.

The latest office action points to paragraphs 0023, 0026, 0027 and 0046 of Hull in support of the assertion that it teaches these two missing steps. As detailed below, however, these portions of Hull do not disclose or suggest the claimed subject matter.

[0023] In operation, transceiver **102** is used to receive messages as in known mobile electronic communication devices, for example short message service (SMS), code division multiple access (CDMA), time division multiple access (TDMA), global system for mobile communications (GSM), and general packet radio service (GPRS). The wireless interface unit **111** operates in conjunction with the transceiver **102** to send and receive information. The audio speaker **112** can broadcast the signals received from the transceiver **102**. Display **103** is used to display text and/or images. For example, display **103** can be implemented with a LCD. Processor unit **104** can store received message information in the memory **110**. Processor unit **104** can also control display **103** to display the stored message information or other data from memory **110**. A user may use keypad **105** to input data and/or instructions to the processor unit **104**. In accordance with the present invention, processor unit **104** can control light unit **126** to provide an indication of the status of messages received by mobile electronic communication device **100**. Light unit **126** can be implemented using any suitable type of light source such as, for example, light bulbs, LEDs (light emitting diodes), LCDs, etc. A user can also use mode select keys **127** to input commands to the processor unit **104** to switch between different operative modes of mobile electronic communication device **100**. Mobile electronic communication device **100** indicates the status of received messages as described below in conjunction with **FIG. 2**.

[0026] In a step **209**, the received message is stored. In one embodiment, transceiver **102** provides the received message to processor unit **104**, which can then store the message data. In addition, processor unit **104** may store other related data such as sender identification, a time-stamp (i.e., the time that mobile electronic communication device **100** received the message), and read status (i.e., an indication of whether the message was accessed by a user) in memory **60**. An example of a data structure to store messages is described below in conjunction with **FIG. 3**. In one embodiment, the message data can be stored in memory **60** included in processor unit **104**.

[0027] In a step **210**, mobile electronic communication device **100** enters a message mode. In one embodiment, the message mode is a mode in which the user may send messages or access messages (e.g. display a message via display **103** so that the user may read the message) that are stored in mobile electronic communication device **100**. In one embodiment, the user may input a command for mobile electronic communication device **100** to enter the message mode. In other embodiments, step **210** can be a default action that is automatically performed after mobile electronic communication device **100** receives a message. Step **210** need not be performed when mobile electronic communication device **100** is already in the message mode, or in embodiments in which mobile electronic communication device **100** has no modes other than message mode.

> [0046] If in step **420** mobile electronic communication device **100** (**FIG. 1**) determines that none of the stored messages is from a contact, the operational flow proceeds to a step **421**. In step **421**, in one embodiment, the message received in step **209** (**FIG. 2**) is handled without performing light functions. In one embodiment, mobile electronic communication device **100** is configured to allow the user to access stored messages. For example, processor unit **104** can be programmed to display prompts or menus via display **103** (**FIG. 1**), which the user can navigate using keypad **105** (**FIG. 1**) to view the message received in step **8** (**FIG. 1**).

A thorough review of these portions of Hull reveals that they do not support the assertions made in the office action. In particular, there is nothing in these portions of Hull that would indicate that Hull's mobile electronic device is able to "automatically retrieve, from a communications event database, a communications event history associated with the identified correspondent," where the correspondent has been identified "independent of an address book" as required in claims 1 and 15.

Paragraph 0023 merely indicates that the device of Hull can receive messages. Paragraph 0026 indicates that the device of Hull can store the sender information associated with a message. Paragraph 0027 indicates that the device of Hull can send messages. And paragraph 0046 indicates that the device in Hull can access stored messages. Notably missing from these portions of Hull is any indication that the device in Hull can "automatically retrieve" the communications event history associated with the correspondent where the correspondent has been identified "independent of an address book." There is nothing in these portions of Hull that even come close to teaching these steps. For this reason alone the rejection over Hull in view of Fujino is faulty and should be withdrawn.

Furthermore, paragraph 0045 of Hull, which the office action does not mention in support of its assertions, proves that Hull's device identifies prior communication events as a consequence of identifying the correspondent in the address book:

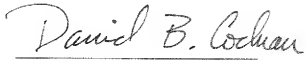
> [0045] In a step **420**, mobile electronic communication device **100** determines which, if any, of the stored messages (see step **209**) were sent by contacts listed in the contact list. In one embodiment, processor unit **104** accesses message datastore **314 (FIG. 3)** to compare the sender identifiers (see **FIG. 3**) of the stored messages to information stored in the contact list. Depending on the nature of the message, the comparison may be performed in a variety of ways. In one embodiment, if the stored message is a SMS message, the sender's SMS address is compared to the SMS addresses stored in the contact list. Similarly, if the stored message is a voicemail (or and email), the sender's telephone number (or email address) is compared to the telephone numbers (or email addresses) stored in the contact list.

Here, Hull teaches that sender identifiers which have been previously stored in the datastore along with their associated messages are compared with information stored in the contact list in order to identify the prior messages received from a particular contact. Thus, Hull requires that the address book (contact list) is utilized in order to identify the prior messages from a particular correspondent. This is exactly what the present invention as defined in claims 1 and 15 does not require in reciting the two missing steps detailed above. For this additional reason, applicants maintain that the rejection over Hull in view of Fujino is defective and should be withdrawn.

This application is in condition for allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

JONES DAY



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